

# Army Acquisition Reform Newsletter



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Army Acquisition Reform Web Site: <http://acqnet.sarda.army.mil/acqref/default.htm>  
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## Overseas Use of the Purchase Card

The Defense Department recently published a significant change to the regulation that covers use of the Government-wide purchase card. A final rule was issued changing DFARS subpart 213.301 to permit use of the card to make purchases exceeding the micro-purchase threshold but not exceeding \$25,000, if the purchase:

- (a) is made outside the United States for use outside the United States; and
- (b) is for a commercial item; but
- (c) is not for work to be performed by employees recruited within the United States;
- (d) is not for supplies or services originating from, or transported from or through, sources identified in FAR subpart 25.7, Restrictions on Certain Foreign Purchases;
- (e) is not for ball or roller bearings as end items; and
- (f) does not require access to classified or Privacy Act information.

This change promises to greatly enhance the ability of Army commands to provide timely support to soldiers deployed OCONUS during contingency operations or humanitarian missions. Contracting activities are reminded that this change does not relieve them of the responsibility to assure that cardholders have the appropriate training and experience commensurate with the level of purchasing authority they are granted.

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## Coming Soon -- Advanced Acquisition Reform Training III

The Advanced Acquisition Reform Training III (AART III) is a series of training sessions designed for the acquisition professional to strengthen and fine tune key contracting skills. These skills are needed to interact effectively with the commercial sector and to leverage best business practices and technological advances. The AART III sessions concentrate on areas where additional training and emphasis will generate the most significant payback to DoD. This payback consists of more efficient acquisitions, contractors incentivized to provide high quality goods and services to the Government, a better educated and "business smart" workforce, and increased customer satisfaction. The core topics for this year are; Incentivizing Contractor Performance, Negotiation Skills and Outcome Based Source Selection. A full slate of electives will also be offered to fill out a 3 or 4 day workshop tailored to organizational needs.